

RWA® Mystery/Suspense Chapter presents
The Daphne du Maurier Award
FOR EXCELLENCE IN MYSTERY/SUSPENSE
PUBLISHED DIVISION 2012
SCORESHEET

Entry Title:
Entry Number:
Final Score:
Category:
Judge Number:

Please check your **Contest Information Sheet** in your book packet to determine which authors wish their score sheets returned.

If the author **does not** request the return of scores, comments are not necessary.

If the author **does** request the return of scores, anything scored 3 and under requires a comment.

PART 1: On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the worst score and 5 being the best, how did the author fulfill the following criteria?

OPENING

___ Opening hook: is it a real attention grabber?

COMMENTS:

___ Opening pages: does the author reveal the right amount of information, not too much or too little, to compel you to read on?

COMMENTS:

PLOT/PACING

___ Is the story original and well-executed?

COMMENTS

___ Is the pacing appropriate to this category?

COMMENTS:

CHARACTERIZATION

___ Are the characters appropriate to the storyline?

COMMENTS:

___ Are the characters skillfully developed?

COMMENTS:

VOICE/POINT OF VIEW

___ Is the author's voice/style unique or fresh?

COMMENTS:

___ Is POV always clear? COMMENTS:

DIALOGUE/NARRATIVE

___ Is there a good balance between dialogue and narrative?

- Does the dialogue progress the story and help build the suspense?
 - Does the narrative progress the story and help build the suspense?
 - Does the dialogue ring true (normal and conversational, not too stiff and unnatural)?
- COMMENTS:

STORY DETAILS

- Does the conflict arise naturally from the situation (is not forced)?
- COMMENTS:

- Does the setting enhance the story (it's not intrusive)?
- COMMENTS:

- Are there enough twists and turns to keep the reader guessing?
- COMMENTS:

- Is the ending believable?
- COMMENTS:

- Does the ending tie up all the loose ends?
- COMMENTS:

OPTIONAL BONUS POINT (worth 1 additional point)

- Is the entry a compelling read?

OPTIONAL BONUS POINT (worth 1 additional point)

- Would you buy this book?

OPTIONAL BONUS POINT (worth 1 additional point)

- Would you recommend this book to a friend?

TOTAL POINTS (Maximum total 88) _____

PART 2 (For informational purposes and to be used as a tie-breaker if needed) Select one statement that best describes this particular entry compared to the others you have read in the category:

- 10. An excellent book; one of the best I've read lately
- 9. This book is superb; masterfully written
- 8. A wonderful read
- 7. An entertaining read
- 6. Well done
- 5. Somewhat enjoyable
- 4. Some good moments
- 3. A struggle to complete the reading
- 2. Not compelling
- 1. Entered in the wrong category

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Optional: Judge's Name: